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Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/709,715
Docket No.: 11586-US-PAREMARKSPresent Status of the Application

It is stated in the action that the previous response has been considered but has been deemed moot in view of new ground of rejections.

The outstanding Office action has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawabe (USPAP 2003/0146893; "Sawabe" hereinafter) in view of Noguchi et al. (USPN 7,084,849), while claims 5-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Noguchi.

In response hereto, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 5 as furnished hereinbefore without introducing any new matter, and hereby respectfully submits that the amended claims are fully supported by the specification. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-7 remain pending in the present invention. In view of the following discussions, a notice of allowance is respectfully solicited.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 5-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Noguchi.

As well defined in the MPEP 2131, "a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a

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single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

With respect to claim 5 of the instant application, as currently amended, it recites,

"A driving method for a pixel array, each row of the pixel array comprising at least one pixel set, at least one of the pixel set comprising a plurality of pixels, and each pixel set corresponding to a data line set, the driving method comprising:

determining whether a prior data line and a recent data line belong to same data line set or not;

wherein when the prior data line and the recent data line do not belong to same data line set, the recent data line is used to drive the pixel disposed neighboring the pixel driven by the prior data line, and the pixel driven by the prior data line and the pixel driven by the recent data line are in the same row and driven by the same gate line; and

when the prior data line and the recent data line belong to same data line set, the recent data line is used to drive a pixel disposed in another row apart from the pixel driven by the prior data line, wherein the pixel driven by the prior data line and the pixel driven by the recent data line are driven by the same gate line."(Emphasis added)

In FIG. 1 of Noguchi, the pixels in an upper row and in a lower row in the reflective display device are alternately driven by the gate line, whereas the pixels (e.g. the pixels 344 and 346 depicted in FIG. 3 of the current invention) adjacent to each other and in the same row are driven by the same gate line when two date lines (the prior data line and

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the recent data line) do not belong to a same data line set according to the Applicant's invention.

Based on the above discussion, Noguchi fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every feature recited in claim 5 of the present invention. Thus, Noguchi does not anticipate claim 5, and the rejection thereof should be withdrawn. In addition, dependent claims 6-7 are also not anticipated by Noguchi as a matter of law, and thus the 102 rejection should be withdrawn.

Discussion of Office Action Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawabe in view of Noguchi.

In claim 1 of the present invention, as currently amended, it recites,

"A driving method for a pixel array, at least one row of the pixel array comprising a plurality of pixel sets, and at least one of the pixel sets comprising a plurality of pixels, the driving method comprising:

providing a plurality of voltages having substantially same phase to a plurality of pixel electrodes of the pixels of one of the pixel sets;

providing at least two voltages with phases substantially opposite to each other to the pixel electrodes of the pixels of two of the adjacent pixel sets respectively, wherein a 1th

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pixel set comprises W pixels, a pixel of the l^{th} pixel set in x^{th} row and y^{th} column is expressed as $P_l(x,y)$, and l , W , x , y are integers;

driving pixels $P_l(x,y)$, $P_k(x+1,y+1)$, $P_l(x,y+2)$, ..., $P_k(x+1,y+W-2)$, $P_l(x,y+W-1)$, $P_j(x,y+W)$, $P_l(x+1,y+W+1)$, $P_l(x,y+W+2)$, ..., $P_l(x+1,y+2W-2)$, $P_j(x,y+2W-1)$ by a first gate line; and

driving pixels $P_k(x+1,y)$, $P_m(x+2,y+1)$, $P_k(x+1,y+2)$, ..., $P_m(x+2,y+W-2)$, $P_k(x+1,y+W-1)$, $P_l(x+1,y+W)$, $P_n(x+2,y+W+1)$, $P_l(x+1,y+W+2)$, ..., $P_n(x+2,y+2W-2)$, $P_l(x+1,y+2W-1)$ by a second gate line." (Emphasis added)

In order to clarify the driving method for the pixels proposed by Applicant's claim 1 and that disclosed in the cited prior art, Applicant has respectfully amended claim 1 by rephrasing the driving method by means of variables. Specifically, in FIG. 3 of the present invention, the first gate line corresponds to the gate line 330, $P_l(x,y)$ corresponds to the pixel 340, $P_k(x+1,y+1)=P_k(x+1,y+W-2)$ corresponds to the pixel 356, $P_l(x+1,y+W+1)=P_l(x+1,y+2W-2)$ corresponds to the pixel 362, $P_j(x,y+W+2)=P_j(x,y+2W-1)$ corresponds to the pixel 350, and the second gate line corresponds to the gate line 333.

In light of the above statement, it is evident that the driving method for the pixels proposed by the present invention is totally different from that taught by Sawabe, which discloses the pixels disposed in two rows are simultaneously driven by the same gate line.

Accordingly, after considering the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that the driving method of the present invention is patentably distinct from Sawabe, and thus the prior art references, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose each and every

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limitation of independent claim 1, and independent claim 1 is allowable. In addition, Applicant hereby presents that dependent claims 2-4 patentably distinguish over the cited references, for at least the reasons described hereinbefore as well as for the additional features that these claims recite.

Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 103 rejections are respectfully requested.

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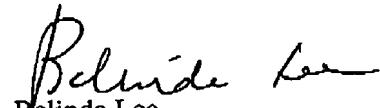
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For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-7 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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